

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Unemployment Rates Increase in All Metro Areas

*First time in six years unemployment rate up in every county*

### Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	April 2016	April 2015	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	5.4%	3.9%	1.5
Carbondale-Marion	6.3%	5.0%	1.3
Champaign-Urbana	5.3%	4.2%	1.1
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	6.3%	5.7%	0.6
Danville	7.5%	6.0%	1.5
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.8%	5.0%	0.8
Decatur	7.1%	5.9%	1.2
Elgin	5.8%	4.9%	0.9
Kankakee	6.8%	5.9%	0.9
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	5.4%	4.7%	0.7
Peoria	6.9%	5.3%	1.6
Rockford	6.9%	6.0%	0.9
Springfield	5.1%	4.4%	0.7
St. Louis (IL-Section)	6.1%	5.1%	1.0
Illinois Statewide	6.2%	5.4%	0.8

\* Data subject to revision.

**CHICAGO**—All metropolitan areas in Illinois experienced over-the-year unemployment rate increases for the third consecutive month, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES).

“Illinois is tied for the highest unemployment rate in the nation, even though in prior months, some areas have experienced relatively low unemployment rates,” said IDES Director Jeff Mays. “This is the first time since January 2010 that every county has had over-the-year increases in their unemployment rate. This is significant in helping to determine true economic conditions across all regions of the state.”

Illinois businesses added jobs in eight metros, in which the largest increases were seen in: Lake-Kenosha (+3.1 percent, +12,200), Rockford (+2.2 percent, +3,300), and Springfield (+1.5, +1,700). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division increased (+1.5 percent or +55,000).

Illinois businesses lost jobs in six metro areas including Bloomington (-2.7 percent, -2,600), Carbondale-Marion (-1.7

percent, -1,000), and the Quad Cities (-1.6 percent, -2,900). The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metros were: Education and Health Services (11 of 14), Retail Trade (10 of 14), Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (eight of 14), Leisure and Hospitality (eight of 14), Other Services (eight of 14), and Government (eight of 14).

Not seasonally adjusted data compares April 2016 with April 2015. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 6.2 percent in April 2016 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.7 percent in April 2016 and 10.6 percent in January 2010 at its peak. The unemployment rate identifies those who are out of work and looking for work, and is not tied to collecting unemployment insurance benefits.

### Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – April 2016

Metropolitan Area	April 2016*	April 2015**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	94,300	96,900	-2,600
Carbondale-Marion MSA	58,000	59,000	-1,000
Champaign-Urbana MSA	111,700	110,800	900
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,677,800	3,622,800	55,000
Danville MSA	29,600	29,400	200
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	180,600	183,500	-2,900
Decatur MSA	50,700	51,200	-500
Elgin Metro Division	258,100	254,900	3,200
Kankakee MSA	44,800	44,900	-100
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	411,700	399,500	12,200
Peoria MSA	177,300	178,500	-1,200
Rockford MSA	154,000	150,700	3,300
Springfield MSA	114,400	112,700	1,700
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	237,600	236,100	1,500
Illinois Statewide	5,992,200	5,935,400	56,800

\*Preliminary \*\*Revised

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**Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates  
(percent) for Local Counties and Areas**

	<b>April 2016</b>	<b>April 2015</b>	<b>Over-the- Year Change</b>
<b>Carbondale-Marion MSA</b>	6.3%	5.0%	1.3
Jackson County	5.8%	4.7%	1.1
Williamson County	6.8%	5.3%	1.5
<b>Other Area Counties</b>			
Alexander County	8.7%	7.0%	1.7
Franklin County	8.8%	6.9%	1.9
Johnson County	8.7%	7.0%	1.7
Massac County	7.3%	6.1%	1.2
Perry County	7.3%	6.0%	1.3
Pulaski County	9.2%	7.3%	1.9
Randolph County	5.2%	4.5%	0.7
Union County	7.7%	6.6%	1.1
<b>Harrisburg Area</b>			
Gallatin County	8.3%	5.6%	2.7
Hamilton County	6.2%	4.6%	1.6
Hardin County	8.3%	6.9%	1.4
Pope County	7.0%	5.3%	1.7
Saline County	9.1%	6.5%	2.6
White County	7.1%	5.0%	2.1
<b>Olney - Mt. Carmel Area</b>			
Edwards County	6.3%	5.6%	0.7
Lawrence County	7.2%	6.1%	1.1
Richland County	6.9%	5.3%	1.6
Wabash County	6.3%	4.9%	1.4
Wayne County	8.7%	6.7%	2.0

**Southern Illinois Highlights**

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.3 percent in April 2016 in the Carbondale-Marion Metropolitan Statistical Area (Jackson and Williamson Counties), up from 5.0 percent in April 2015. Unemployment increased throughout Southern Illinois when compared to one year ago. Stable workforce conditions prevailed in the first four months of 2016.

Over the year, employment advances were reported in Retail Trade and Health Care Services. Manufacturing and Leisure-Hospitality firms added workers. Payroll gains were also reported in Professional-Business Services and Financial Activities. As weather conditions improved, hiring increased for Construction this spring. Mining, Information and Government payrolls continued to decrease in Southern Illinois.

Employment opportunities were available in Health Care, Transportation, and Sales in the spring of 2016. Job openings were advertised in Office and Administrative Support, Management, and Food Preparation occupations. Career prospects were favorable in Social Services, Business and Financial, Education, and Installation, Maintenance, and Repair. Workers were also needed for Production, Health Care Support, Constructions, and Building and Ground Maintenance.

The unemployment rate identifies those who are out of work and seeking employment. A person who exhausts benefits, or is ineligible, still will be reflected in the unemployment rate if they actively seek work.

**Note:**

- Monthly 2015 unemployment rates and total non-farm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February and March 2016, as required by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Comments and tables distributed for prior metro area news releases should be discarded as any records or historical analysis previously cited may no longer be valid.

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